National Agriculture Authority

1966. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) when the National Agriculture Authority was constituted;

(b) the details of members of this Authority;

(c) whether it is a fact that some senior officers have refused to join this Authority at Chennai;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to improve this body?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No National Agricultural Authority has been constituted.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Rate of livestock growth

†1967. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the annual growth rate of livestock has been more in comparison to the agricultural growth during the last decades;

(b) if so, the growth rate of the livestock;

(c) whether it is also a fact that still there are possibilities of increase in this rate; and

(d) if so, the target of the annual growth rate of livestock during the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) Yes Sir, generally output growth of livestock had been more than that of agriculture.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The growth rate of output of livestock sector was 3.3 percent for the year 2004-05 at the prices of 1999-2000.

(c) Yes Sir, with the genetic upgradation and better feed of animal, growth rate can be further increased.

(d) Livestock sector is the subject of State Government. However, growth rate upto six percent at 1999-2000 prices is likely to be achieved during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

Approval for Bt. Cotton

1968. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee has approved 18 new hybrids of Bt. Cotton for planting in India;

(b) if so, the details of varieties and the States to which they are recommended;

(c) the total acres in which Bt. Cotton was grown in the country during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Bt. Cotton has failed in States like Andhra Pradesh;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) what are the reasons for again approving the varieties of Bt. Cotton by GEAC; and

(g) how far the cotton yield per acre has increased thereby in different States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC), in the Ministry of Environment & Forests has so far approved 20 Bt. Cotton hybrids for commercial cultivation in the country. The details of the Bt. Cotton hybrids recommended for different States by the GEAC are given in the Statement-I (*See* below). The year-wise and State-wise area under Bt. Cotton during the last three years is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).